

REMARKS

Examination of the present continuation application filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is respectfully requested.

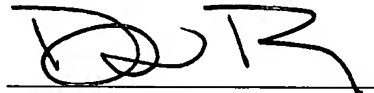
The present application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/717,227 (the "parent application"), filed on November 22, 2000. In the present preliminary amendment, Applicant has amended the specification to cross-reference the parent application.

The Examiner should note that the present application includes new claims 66 and 67. Support for claim 66 may be found, for example, on pages 10 – 11 and Fig. 2B. Support for claim 67 may be found, for example, on page 28, lines 3 – 6.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Although no additional fees are believed to be due, permission is hereby given to charge any unforeseen fees to deposit account 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DGP', written over a horizontal line.

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